

shift to green energy, all while creating good-paying jobs in communities like mine.

In North Carolina, more than 3,000 miles of highway and 1,400 bridges need repair. The average driver spends \$500 a year on vehicle maintenance costs, thanks to this rundown infrastructure.

More than 400,000 North Carolina residents lack adequate access to internet. This bill expands broadband access, helping to ensure that everyone has the tools they need to stay connected and participate fully in school and in remote work.

All these investments create good-paying jobs, spurring economic development, and catapulting our Nation into the 21st century.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting this bill.

ABORTION ON DEMAND BILL

(Mr. PALAZZO asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. PALAZZO. Mr. Speaker, last week, I voted in opposition to one of the most radical attacks on the unborn that Congress has ever seen.

H.R. 3755, the abortion on demand bill would create a dangerous national standard that would allow the execution of innocents solely because of their race, sex, or disability.

Our Nation denounces those who devalue life. We condemn China and North Korea for their human rights abuses, and yet, we must reconcile with the fact that some of our Nation's leaders are devaluing the life of American babies.

It is simple. Abortion is murder, and murder is wrong. "Thou shalt not kill" is not a statement to reject for the sake of politics.

As a Catholic and a father, I will always defend the unborn. As a conservative Congressman, I will continue fighting to keep taxpayer dollars from being used to fund these violent procedures.

May God have mercy on us all.

CLIMATE CHANGE AND SOCIAL PROGRAMS

(Ms. NORTON asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, the Build Back Better Act is historic, but I want to focus on two of its most important programs: climate change and much-needed social programs.

First, climate change, the most important issue facing the entire world, without exception. The U.S. can double its impact—reducing carbon emissions 50 percent while creating 2 million jobs annually over the next 10 years in clean technologies.

And the Build Back Better social programs respond to needs Americans have long prioritized. Among them,

childcare and lower costs for Medicare and college tuition.

Build Back Better pays over the long run with investments for reducing fast-rising climate change issues and pays right now with investments in much-needed social programs.

EROSION MITIGATION

(Mr. LAMALFA asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. LAMALFA. Mr. Speaker, I just want to point out to the American public and my colleagues in this Chamber and the U.S. Forest Service, the extreme importance of all the fire devastation we have had in Northern California and the need to immediately get upon the effort to cover up the erosion that we are going to have there.

We need to mitigate the erosion that has a great potential to be there. This fire here, the Dixie fire—currently almost put out—has reached, finally, nearly a million acres, on top of the fire last year and another 2 years before that.

We have over 1.5 million acres that have burned and are now a repository for ash and erosion that is going to affect what is known as the Feather River watershed, an extremely important watershed to the California State Water Project whose customers number about 25 million people in California, as well as much of agriculture.

We need that erosion control to happen immediately, especially on the heels of the Beckwourth fire, the Dixie fire, so that we don't have our streams, our rivers, our lakes, plugged up with ash, with soil that makes it impossible for our water supply this coming year to be delivered to people in agriculture.

PRIORITIZE PANDEMIC PREPAREDNESS

(Mr. TORRES of New York asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. TORRES of New York. Mr. Speaker, one of the central values of the Build Back Better Act is pandemic preparedness.

COVID-19 has left a death toll of more than 600,000 Americans and a cost of \$16 trillion. If the cataclysm of COVID-19 cannot move our country to prioritize pandemic preparedness, then nothing will.

A wise person once said, Those who fail to learn from history are doomed to repeat it. And if we fail to pass the Build Back Better Act, we are in danger of reliving a history whose repeat we cannot afford.

The Build Back Better Act would enable the United States to develop and distribute vaccines within a few months of a new pandemic threat. It would enable the United States to develop vaccines not only for particular viruses but whole families of viruses

with pandemic potential. It would shore up domestic manufacturing of critical supplies so that we are no longer at the mercy of a fragile global supply chain.

We have the resources to prevent the next pandemic. The only question that remains is do we have the political will to Build Back Better.

ADJOURNMENT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to section 11(b) of House Resolution 188, the House stands adjourned until 10 a.m. tomorrow for morning-hour debate and noon for legislative business.

Thereupon (at 6 o'clock and 7 minutes p.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until tomorrow, Thursday, September 30, 2021, at 10 a.m. for morning-hour debate.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

Under clause 2 of rule XIV, executive communications were taken from the Speaker's table and referred as follows:

EC-2250. A letter from the Alternate OSD FRLO, Office of the Secretary, Department of Defense, transmitting the Department's final rule — National Industrial Security Program Operating Manual (NISPOM); Amendment [Docket ID: DoD-2020-OS-0045] (RIN: 0790-AL41) received September 20, 2021, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-2251. A letter from the Assistant General Counsel, Division of Regulatory Services, Department of Education, transmitting the Department's final priorities — Effective Educator Development Division [Docket ID: ED-2021-OESE-0045] received August 20, 2021, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Education and Labor.

EC-2252. A letter from the Assistant General Counsel, Division of Regulatory Services, Office of Elementary and Secondary Education, Department of Education, transmitting the Department's Major final requirements — American Rescue Plan Act Homeless Children and Youth Program (RIN: 1801-AA24) received August 20, 2021, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Education and Labor.

EC-2253. A letter from the Assistant General Counsel, Division of Regulatory Services, Office of Elementary and Secondary Education, Department of Education, transmitting the Department's final priority and definition — Teacher and School Leader Incentive (TSL) Program [Docket ID: ED-2020-OESE-0199] received August 20, 2021, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Education and Labor.

EC-2254. A letter from the Assistant General Counsel, Division of Regulatory Services, Office of Elementary and Secondary Education, Department of Education, transmitting the Department's final priorities and requirement — Innovative Approaches to Literacy [Docket ID ED-2021-OESE-0036] received August 20, 2021, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Education and Labor.

EC-2255. A letter from the Assistant General Counsel, Division of Regulatory Services, Office of General Counsel, Department